

Mr. Speaker, let us cut taxes on capital investment and make the decision to stay in America the easiest decision in the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUAM CENTENNIAL RESOLUTION

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, just this past Sunday I was on Guam for the reenactment of America's first flag-raising ceremony on Guam. It was on June 21, 1898 that a contingent of American officials, led by Captain Henry Glass, raised the first American flag in the village of Piti.

For many Chamorros, the native people of Guam, it was a time of confusion and apprehension. No one knew how the new authorities would affect the island. And others, after nearly 300 years of Spanish dominion, were sorry to see the Spanish officials and soldiers be whisked away.

However, one thing is certain. The people of Guam deserve the recognition and commitment that the people of this body can provide in commemoration of Guam's centennial anniversary.

For this purpose, today I am introducing a House Resolution which calls on the House of Representatives to recognize Guam's service to the United States and to reaffirm its commitment to Guam's request for political status clarification. I have collaborated extensively with the Democratic and Republican leadership of the House Committee on Resources in formulating the language of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note that 40 of my colleagues have agreed to be original cosponsors of the Guam Centennial Resolution. Let us commemorate Guam's 100-year relationship with the United States.

REDUCING CAPITAL GAINS TAXES

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today Speaker NEWT GINGRICH introduces one of the most important jobs bills that this Congress will consider during this term, and I am talking about the bill to reduce the capital gains tax from 20 percent to 15 percent.

When this has been done in the past, starting in 1978, revenues went up \$23 billion. When the capital gains taxes were cut again in 1981, revenues went up \$9 billion. And in 1986, when capital gains tax rates were raised and not lowered, revenue loss was about \$180 billion.

If we give Americans the opportunity to sell goods at a lower price, they are going to do it. And in doing so, they are going to create more jobs. This would be great for entrepreneurs, for small businesses, for seniors and over

one-half of American consumers who right now are savers.

This is a very important jobs bill, and it is a bill that I am looking forward to a good debate on. I think that this Congress would be remiss in its duties if we did not act on it before the end of the session.

AMERICANS NEED A PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS NOW

(Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, in today's Washington Post there is a front page article that illustrates the immediate need for our Patient's Bill of Rights.

In February of 1997, doctors told a 52-year-old local resident, father of five, that a liver transplant was his only chance to beat liver cancer. The executives of the HMO disagreed and denied coverage for this lifesaving treatment.

Over the next five months this local resident wrote three letters to his HMO, and each was ignored. Finally, five months after his doctors originally told him he needed a transplant, he won an external appeal. The HMO was ordered to pay for the transplant. Five days after he won that appeal, he was too sick to receive that transplant and he died.

Mr. Speaker, how many people have died because of delay in medical care because of this law we have now? If we had a Patient's Bill of Rights that included timely internal and external appeals; access to specialists; point of service options; open communications between patients and providers; and, accountability for these medical decisions, these Americans would not be dying because they are being denied medical care.

Mr. Speaker, we need a Patient's Bill of Rights now.

□ 1015

ON EDUCATION

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, a wise man once defined insanity as doing more of what you have been doing and expecting a different result.

Our friends on the left are talking about giving more money to schools which have produced terrible results, confident in the belief that schools which have failed so miserably the last time Congress gave them more money will do a better job this time around. Republicans talk about improving school performance, for we believe that the focus should be on results, not just on inputs. Democrats talk about spending more money from the Federal Government, unconcerned that Washington bureaucrats will then have more control over our children's education.

Republicans want exactly the opposite. We want parents and local authorities to have more power, and we want less meddling from Washington bureaucrats.

Two different visions and, I submit, two fundamentally different approaches to the education of our children.

AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, have my colleagues heard the response, no room at the inn? That is what we are getting with the health system in America. HMOs, no room at the inn, no room in the emergency room, no hospital bed, no ability to get surgery, no ability to stay in the hospital because one needs to.

Republicans are about to unveil their own do-nothing legislative proposals to address the crisis of teen smoking and managed care reform, but these proposals are not solutions. They are a fig leaf to hide their do-nothing proposals. Instead of supporting real life problems, these programs really apply and listen to the special interests.

That is why I am listening to those who cannot get into hospital beds, who are turned away from emergency rooms, whose children are not diagnosed because we have to call up the HMO to get approval.

We are also going to listen to children today. Three thousand of them start smoking every day, and 1,000 of them will die from smoking. We will have a hearing today to listen to the teenagers of America tell us why we need to pass a bill, a tobacco bill to reform this system, to improve the health system, and to make sure that we do stand on the correct side of legislative history; that is, supporting those who need good health care and to stop tobacco from attacking our children.

ON SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. MINGE) and I, and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. NEUMANN) are introducing legislation, H.R. 4033, that makes changes in the way government borrows from the Social Security trust fund.

It does two things. It provides that from now on when we calculate whether there is a budget surplus or deficit, OMB and CBO, the administration and Congress, shall not consider the money we borrow from the Social Security trust fund as revenue in determining whether or not there is a deficit or surplus.

The other provision in that bill says that from now on when we borrow any

money from the Social Security trust fund, it is going to be in the form of marketable Treasury bills rather than the blank IOUs that we have been using in the past.

If the current revenue spending stream continues, it would mean, for the first time in many years, we could have a balanced budget without considering the \$90 billion borrowed from Social Security. It is the right track, and we need to keep on that track by passing H.R. 4033. Let us be very honest and clear, borrowing from the Social Security should not be considered revenue and the amount borrowed should be secured by marketable Treasury bills rather than the existing politically dependent nonmarketable IOUs.

STANDING UP FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, our Nation exists not simply as a collection of 50 States. The fabric of America is woven through tens of thousands of neighborhoods, the place where we were born, where we grew up, where we live, where we hope to spend the rest of our days.

Those neighborhoods contain familiar landmarks, houses, small businesses, a drugstore here, a restaurant there, places where we gather, where we socialize, where we meet our friends.

Recently the Rite Aid Corporation has been acquiring key corner properties in the Cleveland area and knocking out homes, small businesses, offices and landmarks so that they might become the most profitable drugstore chain. Rite Aid clearly does not care about neighborhood history, about the quality of communities.

One site they acquired, a neighborhood crossroads, was left vacant, weed-strewn and vandalized and littered with debris for a year and a half.

America must stand up for its neighborhoods. Do not patronize businesses which do not respect a neighborhood's history.

ON MANAGED CARE, TEEN SMOKING, AND TAXES

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, we have heard some pretty stiff language in this House this morning concerning managed care, teenage smoking, taxes.

Let us look at the real facts. Managed care can be improved and the Republican Party has a plan to do that. But it is not socialized medicine, that is what the other side wants.

Teenage smoking, we have a plan to address teenage smoking. We all agree on that. Yet the other side has a plan

also, a \$500 billion, \$600 billion plan that grows government and is again a very socialistic approach to teenage smoking.

Capital gains, we have proven that capital gains increases the revenue to this government. The other side would raise taxes, not lower taxes. The real difference is how to accomplish what is needed for America.

The other side believes it is big government, more spending. We believe we have to use our money more wisely, reform government where necessary, and encourage personal responsibility. Those are the answers.

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I received a letter from a woman in Iowa. She was kicked out of the hospital less than 24 hours after undergoing breast cancer surgery, only to go home in pain and to develop painful infections.

She remarked in her letter how her family dog broke his leg and they took him to the vet. The veterinarian kept the dog for four days. She writes, and I quote, "A dog receives better health care than a woman." She is right, and it is a disgrace.

My bill to provide breast cancer patients with 48 hours in the hospital has been included in the Democratic Patients' Bill of Rights. But the Republican leadership refuses to bring this bill to the floor of the House for a vote.

The GOP seems to be more concerned with protecting the profits of the health insurance industry than protecting the quality of health care for American families. Our pets should not be getting better health care than our families.

It is time to pass the Patients' Bill of Rights.

CONGRATULATIONS CHICAGO BULLS

(Mr. COOK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, if I could have the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) come up and join me, a year ago I came to the House floor to pay off a bet with the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON). I bet him that the Utah Jazz would beat the Bulls. I lost. My payment was a floor speech honoring the Chicago Bulls.

Last night, in preparation for this speech, I dug out that speech I gave last year and I remembered a vaunting conclusion. I was right. My closing words were, "We will see you next year, Mr. Jackson. But next year the results will be different."

Well, it is next year and I am back again, a broken man. I have learned a

very important lesson about the evils of betting. And during the playoffs, we all learned a lesson in stamina, commitment and inner strength from the master himself, Michael Jordan.

I agree with Time magazine's assessment this week that what we have seen in Mr. Jordan during his remarkable career we may never see again. I heartily congratulated the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) on winning this and would like to present this from Scottie Pippen to the gentleman and congratulate him again on an outstanding home team and their sixth National Basketball Association Title.

This is a team that has set the standard in basketball for decades to come. And if there ever is another team like them, I hope I have learned to quit betting against them.

ON THE CHICAGO BULLS AND THE UTAH JAZZ

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the most honorable gentleman from Utah for his most gracious concession speech.

Those of us in Chicago spent a lot of time on the edge of our seats. As a matter of fact, we had to put our hospital emergency rooms on alert because so many of our people were about to have heart attacks thinking that Utah might win.

Well, the fact of the matter is that they are both great and outstanding basketball teams who gave America many delights and many thrills. So we want to congratulate the Utah Jazz for being superworthy opponents, and we want to acknowledge their great contribution to the game of basketball.

We want to thank Scottie Pippen, who happens to be my home boy. We both grew up in the State of Arkansas, 12 miles from each other, and I want to thank Scottie for this basketball.

But I also want to make a presentation to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. COOK) so that he will always remember that the Chicago Bulls are indeed number one and that Chicago is a first class city and a world class town.

So on behalf of the Chicago Bulls and all of the people of Chicago, I want to present to the gentleman this Chicago Bulls cap to keep forever and forever and I thank him so very much.

ON THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is tough to move from basketball back to health care. Perhaps the connection is that last night the congressional baseball game was held and it was injury free, a very remarkable feat.